

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 102570

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, CH, UR, BE

SUBJECT: PRC VISIT OF BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS

REF: PEKING 793

1. POLITICAL COUNSELOR OF BELGIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON
SUMMARIZED TO DEPTOFF A TELEGRAM FROM HONG KONG ON
TINDEMANS' TALKS IN PEKING. TELEGRAM APPARENTLY WAS
AUTHORIZED FOR THIS PURPOSE BY THE PRIME MINISTER'S PARTY.

2. TINDEMANS, ACCORDING TO THIS TELEGRAM, EXPECTS TO
DISCUSS HIS CHINA TRIP WITH AMBASSADOR FIRESTONE. WITH
THIS IN MIND DEPT IS PROVIDING YOU SOME TALKING POINTS ON
US-CHINA RELATIONS BY SEPTEL.

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3. DEPTOFF DID NOT MAKE ANY REFERENCE TO CONVERSATION REPORTED REFTEL. THE TWO ACCOUNTS TRACK CLOSELY IN TREATMENT OF SINO-US RELATIONS AND EUROPE AND ENERGY, BUT THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR--AND APPARENTLY THE TELEGRAM--DID NOT MENTION KOREA OR GO INTO ANY DETAIL ABOUT CHINESE VIEWS ON THE INEVITABILITY OF WAR BETWEEN THE SUPERPOWERS. ONLY COMMENT IN THE VERSION PASSED HERE ABOUT TALKS WITH MAO AND CHOU WAS THAT MAO MAINLY DELIVERED

HIMSELF OF A MONOLogue ON THE SOVIET THREAT TO EUROPE, WHILE WITH CHOU THERE WAS MORE OF A DIALOGUE ON VARIOUS MATTERS.

4. OTHER POINTS, SUPPLEMENTING THOSE IN REFTEL:

--EUROPE-US RELATIONS. CHI TENG-KUEI INDICATED THAT IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES US MILITARY FORCES IN GERMANY (ONLY GERMANY WAS MENTIONED) ARE "ESSENTIAL" TO SAFEGUARDING EUROPEAN SECURITY. THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE IS NECESSARY, BUT US IS IN EUROPE PRIMARILY TO PROTECT ITS OWN INTERESTS, AND EUROPE SHOULD NOT HAVE A SUBORDINATE POSITION. IN THE SAME CONTEXT, CHI SAID THE US HAS BEEN OVEREXTENDED AND THIS EXPLAINS ITS DIFFICULTIES IN INDOCHINA. SOVIET FORCES ON THE OTHER HAND ARE MORE CONCENTRATED.

--ENERGY. FOREIGN MINISTER CHIAO KUAN-HUA SAID EUROPE AND JAPAN SHOULD DIVERSIFY THEIR SOURCES AND TRY TO COME TO AN ENTENTE WITH THE PRODUCERS. EUROPE AND JAPAN WERE ABLE TO MANIFEST THEIR INDEPENDENCE IN THE YOM KIPPUR WAR. THE LOME AGREEMENT IS A GOOD EXAMPLE FOR JAPAN.

--UNITED NATIONS. EUROPE SHOULD HAVE A MORE EVEN-HANDED ATTITUDE.

--EEC-PRC RELATIONS. THE CHINESE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE SOAMES VISIT. FOR SOME KIND OF FORMAL EEC-PRC RELATIONSHIP, IT WOULD BE ESSENTIAL THAT THE EEC RECOGNIZE THE PRC AS THE SOLE LEGAL GOVERNMENT OF CHINA AND NOT HAVE ANY "OFFICIAL RELATIONS" WITH TAIWAN.

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--PRC-BELGIUM: TINDEMANS EXTENDED AN INVITATION FOR CHOU EN-LAI OR "A VICE PREMIER," ALONG WITH FOREIGN MINISTER CHIAO, TO VISIT BELGIUM. THE CHINESE SIDE ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE. KISSINGER

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